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Book Review: "Reproduction in Farm Animals"

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which we work and perhaps to change some of the roles we play. To me the opportunity for veterinarians, or for that matter any health professional, seems limitless. You are assured of a busy life and satisfaction in what you do with perhaps some frustration because of being person-

ally unable to attend to everything that needs doing. It would seem, however, that whatever insecurity may be engendered by being torn between several desires may be compensated for by the fact that whatever you do, you can't help but feel wanted.

Book Review

"Reproduction in Farm Animals"

The second edition of *Reproduction in Farm Animals* edited by E. S. E. Hafez and published by Lea and Febiger of Philadelphia in 1968 only partially fulfills the need for a comprehensive textbook on reproduction, obstetrics, gynecology and andrology. Perhaps it's only possible to partially fulfill this need in one text, especially when such general categories as endocrinology, anatomy, physiology, comparative reproduction, reproductive failure and reproductive infections are included. Certainly Dr. Hafez and the 18 other contributing authors have made a noble effort in attempting the impossible. They have updated considerably over the first edition by adding four new chapters and deleting one, thus putting more emphasis on behavior, reproductive failures and cytogenetics.

This book is quite easy to read, is quite accurate and up to date and has very satisfactory tables, figures and illustrations. The photographic plates are minimal and of poor quality and generally do not reflect the quality of the text.

The section on reproductive infections could well have been left out as they offer little more than a list of diseases by etiological agent and are more confusing than enlightening to the target reading group.

This text would be very fine for animal science courses and as a beginning text for veterinary students. The information in the book is information to which these groups need to be exposed. It is not enough, however, for the advanced or graduate student. Diseases perhaps should be omitted as we need an entire text on reproductive disorders and to tack on a sketchy, incomplete touch at the end of a very satisfactory text on normal reproduction only deters and is a misuse of much needed space in the book. Perhaps that effort could have been put into more and better photography. In their effort to be all encompassing, the twenty pages on reproductive failures in females and the eight pages on failures in males are merely scattered fragments of information with little continuity or depth.

The list of films on reproductive biology is very good.

This is a good survey book and should serve well the function of introducing students to the various facets of reproduction in farm animals.

(Reproduction in Farm Animals, edited by E.S.E. Hafez, 401 pages plus index, glossary and list of films. Many excellent diagrams. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, 1968.) By W. M. Adams, B.S., V.M.D., M.S., Associate Professor of Reproduction, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.